Committee for monitoring implementation of Fifteen-point Programme

3687. SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL Alais MEEM AFZAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any committee in his Ministry for monitoring implementation of the 15-Point programme for the welfare of the Minorities; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the number of persons who have been provided with employment during the last three years under the programme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) (i) Does not arise.

(ii) Such statistics of employment under the programme are not maintained.

World Bank loan to Railways

3688. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a fresh World Bank loan is being negotiated by Government for 'Railway Productivity Improvement' ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the World Bank has stipulated a condition that the existing production units of Railways would be privatised in the next three years and no new production units would be started in Government sector in future; and

(c) if so, the stand proposed to be adopted by Government on such conditions ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) Yes, Sir. The World Bank have appraised a project for £300 million to cover essentially modernisation and upgradation of rolling stock.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Encroachment of Railway Land

3689. SHRI MANMOHAN MATHUR :
SHRI VISHWASRAO RAMRAO PATIL :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Railway land has been encroached upon in different parts of the country ;

(b) if so, the details thereof, Division-wise ; and

(c) what steps are being taken against the persons who have encroached upon the land ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Halt of Trains

3690. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that each halt of trains causes Rs. 450/-; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that the running cost can be reduced by avoiding few halts, if so, the action Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MIINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) Halt of train cause some expenditure but

it is not feasible to quantify the exact amount.

(b) Yes Sir. It is difficult to withdraw the halts once provided. However, continuance of the halt is reviewed from time to time.

Recruitment in Railways

3691. PROF. SAURIN BATTACHARYA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railways have decided to recruit 20000 persons less out of an estimated 50000 persons recruited each year, during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for such a decision ; and

(c) whether Government would review the decision, considering its adverse effect on the country's employment potential ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Non-implementation of Exlakhi-Balurghat rail link

3692. PROF. SAURIN BHATTACHARYA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the hardships of the people of Balurghat due to the non-implementation of Exlakhi-Balurghat rail link ; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to begin work during 1992-93 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This work remains on the list of sanctioned works. Resumption of works on the project would depend upon the availability of resources in the coming years.

Case of coal labourers of Loco Shed, Trichy

3693. SHRI PASUMPON THA. KIRUTTINAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Supreme Court of India has given its verdict in Writ Petition number 838 of 1988 dated, 14th December, 1988 regarding the case of coal labourers of Loco Shed, Trichy in Southern Railway ;

(b) if so, the details of the Judgement ; and

(c) the action taken by Government to implement the orders of the Supreme Court ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Supreme Court in their judgement directed the Central Government to take appropriate action under Section 10 of the Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act in the matter of prohibiting the employment of contract labour in the work of loading and unloading in the Southern Railway within six months. It was also stated in the judgement that it was open to the Railway Administration to take a decision to abolish contract labour on its own without waiting for the decision of the Central Government. The Supreme Court also directed that the services of workmen involved should not be terminated in the meantime.

(c) The Railway Administration decided not to abolish the contract